



SEPA THRESHOLD DETERMINATION

Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance (MDNS)

FILE NAME: PUBLIC WORKS WRF PERMEATE EQUALIZATION AND DIGESTED SLUDGE PUMPING

FILE NUMBER: PLN#802

LEAD AGENCY: City of Arlington Community and Economic Development Department

DESCRIPTION: Upgrades and expansion of the City of Arlington (City) Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) were completed in 2011. As part of this project, the City included a 12-inch pipeline from the existing effluent pump station to newly constructed wetlands, which provide nutrient uptake and treatment of stormwater. The purpose of this pipeline is to provide reclaimed water primarily during the dry weather months to maintain the vegetation in the wetlands. At the time improvements to the WRF were being designed, the City was unsure of the timeline for use of reclaimed water, so some elements were removed from the design that would facilitate automation of reclaimed water production and delivery. Furthermore, current diurnal flow patterns and low flow limitations of the UV disinfection system do not facilitate steady production of reclaimed water. An evaluation of alternatives for making the necessary improvements is summarized in an engineering report that recommended converting an unused membrane tank for equalization of permeate flow during reclaimed water production and to minimize on/off cycles of UV disinfection reactors during low flow periods. The proposed improvements also include modifications to permeate piping, addition of actuated valves to control routing of permeate flow into and out of the equalization tank, addition of a pump to control flow out of the equalization tank, level instrumentation for control of equalization volume, a flow meter to measure flow of reclaimed water, instruments to monitor quality of reclaimed water, retrofitting actuators on existing valves to control discharge of effluent to the river or wetlands, modifications to MCC-3, and PLC programming and SCADA system upgrades to integrate the new equipment and control strategy.

A separate engineering report evaluated alternatives for replacement of the existing double disc diaphragm digested sludge pumps to provide greater suction head, allowing the digester tanks to be drawn down further. This report recommended replacing the existing pumps with progressive cavity pumps. The proposed improvements include demolition of the existing pumps, modifications to the existing suction and discharge piping, installation of the new pumps, installation of instruments for pressure monitoring and run dry protection, modifications to MCC-1, and PLC programming and SCADA system upgrades to integrate the new equipment and revised control strategy.

LOCATION: The Arlington WRF is located at 154 W Cox Ave, Arlington, WA 98223

APPLICANT: City of Arlington, Public Works Department, James X. Kelly, 360-403-3505

STAFF CONTACT: Josh Grandlienard, Planner II, joshg@arlingtonwa.gov

DATE CHECKLIST PREPARED: January 6, 2021

APPROVALS REQUIRED: City of Arlington: SEPA Other Agencies: Stormwater General Permit, Puget Sound Air Quality Permit

SEPA THRESHOLD DETERMINATION: The City of Arlington has determined that with the mitigation measures identified herein, this proposal would not have a probable and unavoidable significant adverse impact on the environment. Pursuant to WAC 197-11-350(3), the proposal has been clarified, changed, and conditioned to include necessary mitigation measures to avoid, minimize or compensate for probable significant impacts. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2) (c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request. However, we have

identified impacts by the proposed project that requires mitigation. In addition to the requirement that the development must comply with all City of Arlington zoning and development regulations, the following conditions of approval of the permit decision apply:

(B)(1) Earth: In order to mitigate for potential earth impacts, the Applicant shall implement Best Management Practices per Department of Ecology for Stormwater Pollution Prevention and TESC Controls to prevent erosion during and after construction.

(B)(2) Air: In order to mitigate for potential air impacts, the Applicant shall implement dust control measures to reduce fugitive dust emissions during construction. A Construction Management Plan shall be submitted to the City prior to commencement of construction to ensure these measures. Construction equipment emissions shall comply with all State and Federal regulations for emissions.

(B)(3)(b) Ground Water: Discharge to the constructed treatment wetlands and any incidental percolation into groundwater that occurs from that will be with Class A reclaimed water that has been designated suitable for this purpose by the Washington State Department of Ecology, realizing that the groundwater is hydraulically connected to the river and so such percolated flow will end up in the river, as it would normally if discharged through the outfall. As stated in the current NPDES permit, "reclaimed water will incidentally recharge groundwater through percolation from the unlined CTW (constructed treatment wetlands)." Because of the close proximity of the wetland to the river, the generally porous alluvial soils, and the absence of other influences on the groundwater, this percolated flow will discharge as baseflow to the river.

(B)(3)(c) Water Runoff: In order to mitigate for potential impacts to water runoff the Applicant shall follow the current edition of the Department of Ecology Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington and Best Management Practices used to protect groundwater. All onsite stormwater will be collected, treated, and detained or infiltrated to match preexisting runoff conditions on site.

(B)(6) Energy: The project will comply with the latest Washington State Energy Code requirements.

(B)(7)(A) Environmental Health: Applicant shall comply with current codes to reduce or control environmental health hazards. A spill prevention plan shall be in place according to local, State and Federal policies.

(B)(7)(b) Noise: The applicant shall comply with the City of Arlington noise standards found in AMC 9.20.060. Specifically, in section 9.20.060(8), noises resulting from any construction activity or the operation of heavy equipment from 7:00pm to 7:00am Monday through Saturday and all day Sunday, shall be prohibited. The project will generate short term noise associated with construction activities. Construction hours will conform to City requirements. Noise from light vehicle traffic will be generated during business hours at project completion.

(B)(11)(a) Light and Glare: In order to mitigate for potential light pollution the Applicant will be required to install light fixtures that are down shielded. The property is located within the Arlington Airport Protection District – Subdistrict D.

(B)(13) Historic and Cultural Preservation: There are no known buildings, structures, or sites located on or near the site that are in (or candidates for) the local historic preservation register. There are no known landmarks, features, or other evidence that would indicate Indian or historic use or occupation. Local registries were searched and it appears that no impacts to existing cultural and historic resources are anticipated to occur as a result of the proposed project. None the less, an Unanticipated Discovery

Plan will be required, and if any potential evidence is encountered during the site work, work will be halted and the State Historical Preservation Officer, Stillaguamish Tribe, and the City of Arlington will be contacted, and measures taken to implement the UDP.

(B)(16)(a) Utilities: The applicant shall connect to the City of Arlington water and wastewater systems.

(B)(16)(b) Utilities: The Applicant shall construct all existing, extended, and new electrical power lines (not to include transformers or enclosures containing electrical equipment including but not limited to, switches, meters, or capacitors which may be pad mounted), telephone, gas distribution, cable television, and other communication and utility lines in or adjacent to any land use or building permit approved after the effective date of this chapter shall be placed underground in accordance with the specifications and policies of the respective utility service providers and located in accordance with the administrative guideline entitled "Public Works Construction Standards and Specification." Even in the event the distribution line originates from a point opposite any public roadway from the new construction the service lines shall be placed beneath said roadway by means of boring or surface excavation across said roadway.

DISCLAIMER: The determination that an environmental impact statement does not have to be filed does not mean there will be no adverse environmental impacts. The City of Arlington codes governing noise control, land use performance standards, construction and improvements of roads, off site road improvement obligations, drainage control, traffic, school, park, stormwater, and utility mitigations, fire protection; and building practices will provide substantial mitigation of the aforementioned impacts.

The issuance of this MDNS should not be interpreted as acceptance or approval of this proposal as presented. The City of Arlington reserves the right to deny or approve said proposal subject to conditions if it is determined to be in the best interest of the city and/or necessary for the general health, safety, and welfare of the public to do so.

DATE OF MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE: February 24, 2021

COMMENT PERIOD: There is a 14-day comment period for this MDNS. If you would like to comment on this Application or Threshold Determination, written comments must be received prior to 5:00 p.m. on March 10, 2021. The Responsible Official may incorporate any substantial comments into the MDNS. If the MDNS is substantially modified, it will be reissued for further public review.

SEPA Responsible Official: Marc Hayes, Director of Community and Economic Development

<u>February 22, 2021</u>	<u>Marc Hayes</u>
DATE	SIGNATURE OF SEPA RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL

TO APPEAL A DECISION: An agency or person may appeal the City's procedural compliance with WAC Chapter 197-11 (SEPA) for issuance of this MDNS. Appeal of the final MDNS must be made to the Hearing Examiner within 10 days of the date the MDNS is final (see WAC 197-11-390(2) (a)). The MDNS is a final MDNS when the City issues the land use permit. Appeal of the land use permit must be made to the Hearing Examiner within 14 days of the date the permit is issued.